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# RELIGIOUS AND PERSONAL PERSECUTION IN COMMUNIST CHINA

Communist Chinese broadcasts provide no information on reception-indoctrination procedures for nationals returning to the Chinese mainland. Peking propaganda over the last four years shows the Communist attitude toward returning Chinese to be substantially as described by FE/P. Concerning religious restrictions, broadcast material has illustrated the Communist effort to isolate Christian, particularly Catholic, clergy and congregations from international affiliations and to transform them into national religious groups responsive to State influence. Broadcasts to the mainland audience as well as to listeners abroad emphasize, however, the continued freedom of religious practice and assembly in the CPR.

The propaganda offers good treatment to returning businessmen with capital to invest, Overseas Chinese students, Nationalist Armed Forces defectors, and relatives returning to assist rural families. It assures official protection for Overseas Chinese remittances and investments in State or local industrial and welfare projects.

Peking Home Service on 3 February 1955 reported that a group of students returned from the United States after October 1954 had reported to the Ministry of Higher Education in Peking and were presently engaged in research at the Academy of Sciences. A few weeks later the NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY transmitted in English Morse (19 February) supplementary statements by "students recently returned from the United States"--presumably the same group--endorsing the WPC signature campaign against atomic weapons and contrasting the peaceful atmosphere in China with the war hysteria current in the United States.

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